

Golden Agers present gifts of appreciation

By Mrs. Elsie Reed
The usual seasonal lower turnout was noted at the Golden Age meeting, the last for 1970. Next meeting will be Jan. 5, 1971. Some members were sick or ailing, while others had already left to spend the Christmas season with relatives.

Business being quickly dealt with, Mr. Davidson was asked by the president to come to the front; and after some very kind remarks to the secretary and the members, presented the

secretary an honorarium on behalf of the club for her work during the past year. Mrs. Reed gratefully expressed her thanks for the nice gift.

Euchre conveners
Mrs. Herrington and Mrs. Millar each received a gift for their faithful work as euchre conveners.

Mrs. Bradshaw played the piano for the singsong of Christmas Carols.

Little Linda, pleasingly played some Christmas Carols. Nice work, Linda. Pease come back

again.
Mrs. Milne gave some lovely readings, appropriate for the Christmas season.
Albert Shultis was saluted with Happy Birthday.

Tasty lunch
A tasty lunch was served. Christmas cake was passed as a Grande Finale.

The members dispersed with hearty Merry Christmas and Happy New Year wishes.

The Editor and staff are wished a Merry Christmas.



PEEKING INTO Santa's bag of goodies are children from Rockwood nursery school. Santa brought gifts for Mrs. Cynthia Luckman's class Friday morning. —(Staff Photo).

Wintery walk for hikers more jaunts

Hikers enjoyed a wintery walk along the Bruce Trail around Rattlesnake Point Conservation area a week ago, as the Toronto Bruce Trail Club continued its regular winter hiking program.

They covered eight miles of terrain in their Sunday trek with George Roberts, Ken Young and John McLaughlin as leaders.

Several interesting hikes are planned for Toronto club members on future Sundays. On Jan. 3 they plan two short hikes in the Limehouse and Hilton Falls areas; Jan. 10 is a six mile hike from Rattlesnake Point to Crawford Lake; Jan. 24 a snowshoe hike five miles in length near Terra Cotta; Feb. 7 a three to five mile hike in the Caledon Hills; Feb. 21 a cross country hike on skis near Speyside; March 14 a circular but strenuous hike three to eight miles long at Cataract; and March 28 an eight mile at Credit Forks.



Silent Night

Rosy cheeked carolers carry our glad message of Yule greetings to everyone.

Park Motors
No. 7 Highway East of Georgetown

Christmas wasn't merry with Cromwell in power

By Susan Cooper
Humber College
Journalism Student

English Christmases were anything but merry between 1649 and 1660, when Oliver Cromwell ruled with iron-fisted Puritan morality. There could be no laughter, no carols, no merrymaking of any kind. His government passed ordinances forbidding the observance of Christmas as a feast day and his austere Roundheads policed the country, ruthlessly enforcing the laws.

This year, god by His providence, has buried this feast in a fast, and I hope it will never rise again," asserted one grim-faced legislator of the time.

Soldiers tramped around London on the morning of Christmas Day, to seize any meat sizzling in the fireplaces of unsuspecting citizens.

The traditional bear's head, roasted peacock, sweet meats, hot spiced broths and plum puddings were frivolous luxuries that Cromwell would not allow.

History tells of Christmas Day in 1657 when soldiers raided a celebration of Holy Communion.

The dour Cromwellians triumphantly took the names of some of the "offenders" and rounded up others for treatment as common criminals.

"When I came before them," wrote one of the worried worshippers, "they took my name and abode, examin'd me why, contrary to an ordinance made that none should any longer observe ye superstitious time of the Nativity (so esteem'd by them), I durst offend, and particularly be at Common Prayers."

No gaiety
Every precaution was taken then to keep Englishmen from enjoying any gaiety at Christmas. Common ordinances prohibiting other cherished customs were enforced more stringently on Christmas than at any other time. Pastimes such as cock-fighting, bear-baiting, horse racing, betting and gambling were regarded as serious offences.

As on the Sabbath, recreation, work and walking anywhere except to one's own church were forbidden. Unsmiling faces and drab clothing were the dictated style.

Cromwell closed hundreds of the alehouses, the time-honored English meeting places, and

people didn't like it. The first Cromwellian Christmas resulted in riots and civil disobedience.

Horse sense

by
Pretty Fair



Wal, howdy folks and Christmas spirits to all of yez. Got ta' thinkin' th'other day - kinda goin' over things in m'mind. Jeehosaphat, ever since I heard th'boys tawkin' about the ole bone yard fer me an all thet kinda stuff I got a make plans real soon an get away from this dern blamed hole they's got me in down hyar at Thatcher's place.

Now I aint squawkin' about th'Thatchers 'tall. They's rite nice people least ways I allus figured they wuz until I turned out t'be such a flop. Now I'm not so 'shure 'bout nobody no more especially about th'guys wots kept me around an pretended t'be my friend so I could rake them in lotsa money and such. Aint thar any humans wot like guys just fer loyalty sake. I hears lots about thet frase whar I cum from but nobody seems t'know just what it means. Yew're supposed t'be friends wot folks come hell or hiwater so's my ole mum usedta say but holy geeze, these guys seemed t'be able t'change thar bonds o'friendship whichsoever way th'wind blows. They don't care about all th'shoe changins, all the cart rides, all the excitin' moments I gave 'em when ever they'd call out my name over the horse racin' speaker an how they'd beam with pride n'all cause I becom'd t'hem.

Shure, thet's all over now, I just aint fast enough so's I gotta git away before thet tannery man comes around agin t'take a good look at me. Went down into th'village th'other day - met up wot Trooper an Robbie Ellis on Jackson Street. Coupla great horses them two but they agrees with me thet them Christmas lites wot aint shore do make ole Rockwood look bare an forsaken an thar still aint no traffic singal lights on thet dadblamed cross walk line on th'Main Street. Those danged snow contraptions are still hummin' around an I saw one little kid fall into th'snow 'cause o'hem. Jest wouldn't be safe t'walk on the'side walk but thet doesn't bother me none cause I use th'road anyways so it gives me more room. Sher

wouldn't be too gowd fer th'old folk though, an frum whar I sits they should matter sumwhat I figgers.

They's been lotsa changes in th'Village lately amonst th'recedents too. Fer instance, thet great Nichol family has moved away temporaril-like I understand, an' they was real terrific people in this community, allus doin' good things an startin' up athletics fer th'girls n'all. They'd never 'been a girl's soft ball team if'n it hadn't been fer thet Al guy an his son Darryl an his helpers. Wal, they's gone now, maybe they'll cum back an start up some other kinda business. It would be sad t'see the likes of them varmint skinnin off an never comin' back. Wot with Alice an Gail an little Kevin doin' so much in th' cubs and everythin' else.

Another family wots gone from th'Village an'll be missed a lot is the Sinclair tribe wot lived in th'ole Presbyterian rectory buidlin'. Th'way I heard it waz thet they needed a bigger place t'live in an th'dad blamed house in Guelph found them instead o'hem findin' the'house. So's they's gonna be reel happy stayin' thar an maybe village folks'll git t'visit Guelph more often. But no matter how yew look at it it's allus sad t'see nice folk leavin' t'start up sumwhar else an they's lotta villagers wot'll do a lot o'lookin' for they cums up wot nicer families than those two.

Hey, Trooper jest came mosey-in hyar t'he barn. Seems thet Dave Rowe guy wot wuz runnin' fer th'Village trustee board got behind the blasted young people's group in Rockwood an helped them set up a Christmas tree on th'old bowlin green. Trooper sez it's kinda wobbly an all thet but it shore is great t'see team spirit. Fer my money he's the fust guy wot trustee ambitions wot's ever cared wot Rockwood looks like an fer my thinkin' he's "A" one. Jest too had the dadblasted citizens couldn't a knowed sooner thet Mr. Rowe knew about decoratin' an all thet thar an maybe he'd got into office jest t'look after the

Query internal boundaries

Until Nassagaweya Council is sure of the definite internal boundaries a regional government plan for Halton County alone would bring, it has refused steadfastly to sign any papers concerning the subject.

decorations at Christmas time. Wal folks, gotta scam now. Tomorrow it's the cutter with Julie an the kids. I shore as heck hafta keep myself lookin' young an chipper if'n I'm gonna dis-infect th'evil thinkin' o'my owners. If'n I can convince them guys thet they's lotsa gin in the ole gal yet maybe they'll let me stay around fer a spell. Meantime folks, Have a reel Merry Christmas an hyars hopin' thet Santa Clause will be good t'all of you. By now, yer friend, Pretty Fair.

The announcement was made at Wednesday's final meeting of 1970 following the reading of a letter by Burlington's new reeve-elect James Swinborough to Minister of Municipal Affairs Darcy McKeough, stating "Halton County is ready for regional government and would be a strong unit as one of the new regions."

"Nassagaweya has taken a strong stand and refused steadfastly to sign any papers concerning regional government," said Reeve Mrs. Anna MacArthur. "How does Mr. Swinborough know how all of Halton County feels when he has never approached us on the matter?" she mused.

Here's hoping that beautiful things lie ahead for all our valued customers during the Christmas season.

RIGMOR NIELSEN
RAINBOW BEAUTY SALON

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
To all, sincerest wishes for a merry, old-fashioned Christmas.
Thanks, and have a happy
NEW YEAR

NIELSEN'S ANTIQUES
Main St. S. - Acton

HOLIDAY CLOSING
ALL TOWN OPERATIONS

INCLUDING
MUNICIPAL OFFICE

WILL OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1970
MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1970
and
FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1971

NOTICE RE GARBAGE PICK-UP

No Pick-up Monday Dec. 28
Regular Monday
Dec. 28 Pick-up Made
Tuesday, Dec. 29.

J. T. HURST, Clerk, Administrator

At Christmas

Old-fashioned ways of warm cordiality have a special meaning at Christmas. In this old-time spirit, we wish you holiday joy, ever-new, rich in the blessings of home, family, friends. Merry Christmas!

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF
TYLER TRANSPORT LIMITED
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